



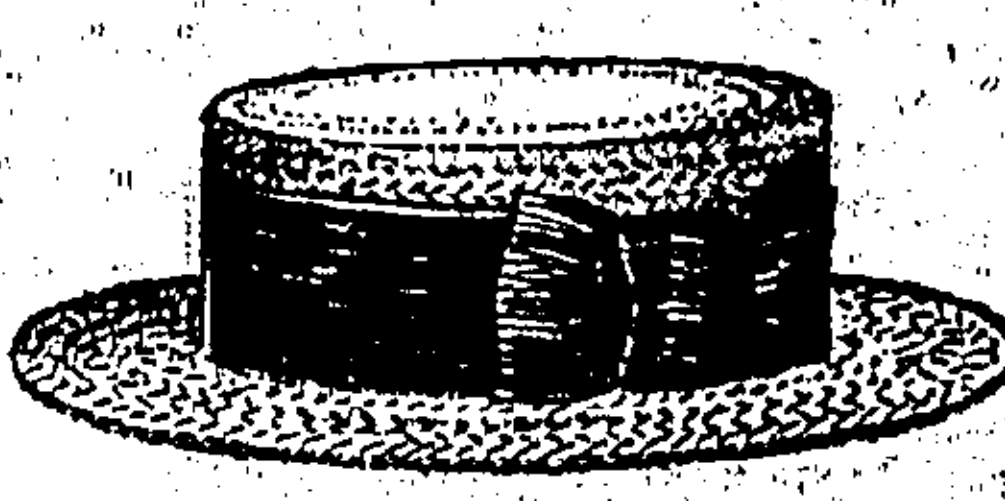
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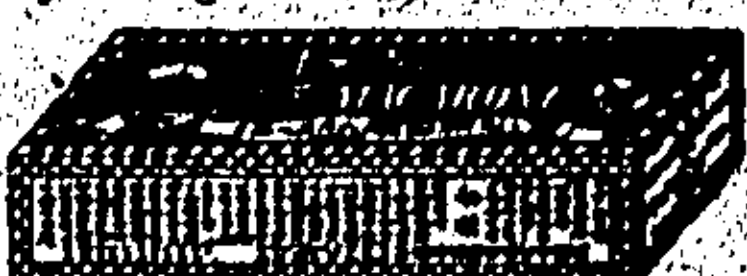
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HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

INTERESTING QUESTIONS DISCUSSED.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday evening in the Chamber's room. The Hon. Mr. E. V. D. PARR, Vice-Chairman, presided and there were also present the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, the Hon. Mr. N. J. Stubb, the Hon. Mr. John Johnstone, Messrs. Ross Thomson, J. A. Plummer, C. H. P. Hay, J. W. C. Bonnar, C. S. Gubbay (Committee), and Messrs. J. M. Alver (Messrs. J. M. Alver & Co.), B. Mordaunt Webb (Messrs. Arnold Bros. & Co., Ltd.), Lindsay Wood (Messrs. Banker & Co.), L. Berinodague (Messrs. Banque de l'Indo-Chine), J. A. Plummer (Messrs. Bradley & Co., Ltd.), Ross Thomson (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire), R. B. Cooper (Messrs. Cawston & Co.), J. L. Crockett (Messrs. Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China), B. W. Tape (Messrs. China Mutual Life Insurance Co., Ltd.), G. M. Shaw (Messrs. China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.), G. H. Elliott (Messrs. Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.), R. Rodenfuser (Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes), G. M. Dodwell (Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.), L. N. Whyte (Messrs. Donnelly & Whyte), G. W. Barton and W. Dunbar (Douglas S.S. Co., Ltd.), T. W. Hill (Messrs. Eastern Asbestos Co.), G. Bond (Messrs. Gande Price & Co., Ltd.), J. W. O. Bonnar and A. O. Lang (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.), W. A. Hannibal (Messrs. W. A. Hannibal & Co.), J. Arnold (Messrs. Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.), F. Grahame (Messrs. Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.), L. N. Leafé (Messrs. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.), S. W. Ho (Messrs. Hongkong Mercantile Co., Ltd.), N. J. Stubb (Messrs. Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation), W. E. Roberts (Messrs. Hongkong, Tramway Co., Ltd.), A. de Sousa (Messrs. Hongkong Import and China Produce Export Co.), T. F. Hough (Messrs. Hough & Hough), H. D. Hutchison (Messrs. Hogg, Karanjia & Co., Ltd.), John Johnstone (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.), D. K. Blair (Messrs. Marine Insurance Association of Hongkong), C. L. Sanders (Messrs. Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.), W. Joseph (Messrs. J. R. Michael & Co.), G. C. Moxon, A. G. Coppin (Messrs. Neale & Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk Co.), J. W. Stackhouse (Messrs. New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd.), H. P. Smith (Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth & Fleming), P. H. Holyoak (Messrs. Reiss & Co.), J. M. de Rocha (Messrs. J. M. de Rocha & Co.), C. H. W. Kew (Messrs. Rudolf Wolf & Kew, Ltd.), A. G. de Rocha, C. S. Gubbay (Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co.), G. E. Wetton (Messrs. H. Skott & Co.), H. Stephens (Messrs. H. Stephens & Co.), F. P. Talati, S. M. Churn (Messrs. Union Trading Co.), C. H. P. Hay (Messrs. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.), W. C. Shiner (Messrs. United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Ltd.), T. A. Xavier (Messrs. P. & A. Xavier & Co.), and S. Leung (Messrs. Yuen Hop Hong).

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen.—The report and accounts have been in your hands for some days and we will, with your permission, adopt the usual course and take them as read. It will be observed that the correspondence during the year has again been exceptionally heavy, and I will now refer to those questions which appear to deserve special mention as briefly as possible.

TELEGRAPHIC DELAY.—The subject of a voluminous correspondence, or less throughout the year, and the following detailed information on this subject, which has come to hand since this report was printed, will no doubt be of interest. The London Chamber of Commerce informs us, in reply to our advice, that the question of telegraphic delay has been constantly before the Home Chambers, practically ever since the Armistice. At the outbreak of the so-called Government messages and the establishment of the unrestricted use of codes, registered telegraphic addresses, deferred rates, etc., it was anticipated that when this was effected a considerable amelioration would result, but in the latter months of the year things went from bad to worse and continual correspondence both with the London Post Office and the Cable Companies resulted. The primary causes of the delay are as follows:—The length and number of the cables despatched at the present time is largely in excess of normal, the number of words dealt with in 1919 was 180 millions, as compared with 64 millions in 1912. Certain lines such as the Indo-European, interrupted from the beginning of the war, are not yet in operation. The Indo-European and Great Northern, the latter still interrupted by Russia and Germany, carried a large proportion of the Far East and Indian traffic before the war. The whole of the telegraphic business between the East and the United Kingdom has, therefore, to be carried by the Eastern and Associated Telegraph Companies. Then it has not been possible to maintain the cables in a proper state of repair during the War years, exposed as they were to the full blast of the enemy's submarine and mine warfare, although, like all the other brave members of the Mercantile Marine, the repairing ships of the Eastern Telegraph Company were at work, we are informed, practically night and day. (Applause.)—Owing to the enormous demand, manufacturers are unable to promise delivery of material for new cables. In their own interests, as

well as the Telegraph Company's and ours, the present unsatisfactory position will no doubt be regarded as expeditiously as possible. We are further advised that a new cable is being laid between the United Kingdom and Gibraltar, and orders are being given for the manufacture of a cable to provide a new fast speed line to the East, via the Mediterranean, Red Sea, Bombay, Madras, and Singapore. A large quantity of new apparatus is also on order, which, it is stated, will tend to increase the capacity of the existing cables. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the time which must elapse before the whole of these requirements are met will be as short as possible, and that the speed of transmission of telegrams, and comparative freedom from errors on which the telegraph Companies justly prided themselves before the War, will be resumed with the least possible delay. (Applause.)—I regret to have to mention, however, that in some cases the delays to particular telegrams are inexplicable and it is difficult to believe that the local system is not at fault somewhere when messages for firms not five minutes walk from the Telegraph Office take 45 minutes in delivery, also when a message from Singapore to Hongkong takes 30 hours one day, and one immediately before or after is delivered in under 24 hours. Cases of this kind are serious handicaps to trade and may cause great inconvenience and the loss of large sums of money. With reference to the much discussed subject of "urgent" rates, it is to be hoped the Telegraph Company will soon be able to make such arrangements as will reduce to normal the too frequent present necessity of having to pay three times the tariff rate for what, it is feared, has too often proved a doubtful advantage. I mention these matters in the true interests of the Telegraph Co. and of trade generally.

THE OUTWARD MAIL.

The delay to the outward mails, also referred to in our report, has been curtailed during the year by shipment per Indian mail steamers via Marseilles, Bombay, Negapatam, and Singapore which, however, necessitates a wait at the latter port for a direct steamer for China. That is the reason, gentlemen, why some mails arrive more quickly than others, the time in transit necessarily depending upon the wait at Singapore for the first west-bound expedition steamer for Hongkong. It will be readily understood that the first steamer leaving may not be the quickest; therefore, discrimination on the part of the Post Office at Singapore may sometimes be necessary. I understand the Postmaster-General is making enquiries regarding the possibility of forwarding homeward mails also by this route, when a more direct service is not available. Some merchants, indeed, already forward letters for Europe, etc., to their friends in Singapore to be posted by the weekly mails thence via Negapatam and Bombay.

REGISTRATION OF FIRMS.

The question of the registration of firms, trading under names other than their own, has been very carefully considered by the Chamber's Legal Sub-Committee, and legislation to counteract practices often misleading has been proposed and acknowledged with grateful thanks the time and trouble taken over the legal aspect of the matter by Messrs. C. D. Wilkinson, J. J. Gedge and J. Scott Haxton, and regret that it has not, up to the present, been found practicable to pass the proposed legislation. Older members may remember that a Royal Commission sat and reported to the Government on this subject some years ago. It would appear that merchants must protect their own interests by making any enquiries concerning their correspondents they may deem necessary through the Chamber of Commerce at the port concerned, the leading banks or other ordinary channels.

THE CHAMBER'S PUBLICATIONS.

The Committee desire to acknowledge the gratifying support to the Chamber's "Daily Bulletin" and hopes for your continued assistance to enable this special issue to subscribers to be carried on without loss to the Chamber as hitherto. Apart from the value of the cables and the commercial information the "Daily Bulletin" presents in a form very handy for reference, the existence of this little journal has enabled us to initiate a service of news to the vernacular papers which I hope, in time, will be considerably extended. Moreover, it will be a subject for the consideration of your Committee whether, by the inclusion of market reports and prices current and in other ways, the scope of the "Bulletin" cannot be widened until it becomes more representative of the trade of this port and we can utilize it as the official journal of this Chamber.

I would also mention here the Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce Journal, an interesting reading for merchants and a useful medium for mercantile advertisement. The Secretary of the Chamber in Shanghai will be glad to learn of any new developments of interest to general trade, in connection with firms at this port.

SCHOOL FOR THE STUDY OF CHINESE.

I would like to refer particularly to this Chamber's School for the study of Chinese, which has done much good work in the past, but fell away somewhat as was to be expected with the depleted staff during the war. With the return of our brave defenders to their former spheres of commercial usefulness we look for full classes, and it is hoped all firms here will encourage in every possible way their employees to join the school in their own

as well as the firm's interest. The Committee have once again to acknowledge the ability, carefulness and zeal with which the Director, the Rev. Dr. T. W. Pearce, L.L.D., continues to conduct this work for the advancement of the Colony's Commerce. (Applause.)—The Committee also desire to place on record their appreciation of the services of the late Mr. N. G. Nolan, Chief Interpreter of the Supreme Court of Hongkong as Examiner of the School and to express sincere sympathy with his family in their recent bereavement.

THE PROPOSED SHANGHAI MINT.

The shortage of dollars in Shanghai in December last caused great inconvenience to trade and at one time it was not possible to obtain sufficient for the Paymaster at Tientsin to meet requirements in connection with repatriated coolies. There was strong evidence that the Nanking Mint was holding up dollars with the object of keeping the price at a level very much above minting cost. The result of representations through the British Consul-General at Shanghai and the Minister at Peking was the proposal by the Chinese Minister of Finance to establish a branch of the Nanking Mint at Shanghai. Your Committee fully endorse the opinion of the Shanghai Chamber that this proposal to establish a branch of the Nanking Mint in Shanghai is no more than a move to strengthen the already powerful hold of the mint interest and to block reform, and that what is required is a Central Government Mint open, as the resolution passed at the recent Conference of Chambers there stated, to the free coinage of dollars, with adequate guarantees for the maintenance of the fineness and weight of the coins.

STORM SIGNALS AND TIME BALL.

The question of storm signals has been before your Committee as in previous years and after further mature consideration, and as a result of extensive expert enquiry, the Chamber advised the Government, that although some Shipping Masters were in favour of the Hongkong system, as against the China Coast system, which others preferred, they practically all favoured uniformity, to secure which it appeared necessary to adopt the China Coast system, and the Shipping Community are indebted to the Government for falling in with and adopting these views. The China Coast system will, therefore, now be in use in these waters.

The Time Ball is also now dropped at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. except Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, instead of at 1 p.m. and Time Wireless Signals flashed at 9 p.m. daily. The thanks of the Shipping are due to the authorities for carrying out these suggestions also.

THE COLONY'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES.—At the request of the Colonial Secretary, your Committee proposed the names of certain gentlemen to serve on a Committee of enquiry into the economic resources of the Colony. This Committee of enquiry has now been appointed and is sitting under the chairmanship of Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., and it is hoped the result of its labours will prove of the greatest benefit to this Colony. The Committee has been divided into various Sub-Committees whose reports will be forwarded in due course to the Government and from time to time.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE.

Government Notifications Nos. 339 and 550 regarding Imperial Preference will not have escaped you, and their importance to the trade of this Colony has doubtless been carefully considered. Probably few, if any of our present exports, owe 75 per cent. of their total value to Colonial labour and material, but with its growing industries, the Regulations under Notification No. 550 may prove of the utmost importance to the Colony.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.

During the year your Committee have, in conjunction with the Government, formed the first two scholarships at the Hongkong University for Yunnanese students. The Chamber's commitment is \$1,000 per annum for 5 years, and I am sure you will agree with the policy aimed at in this connection of spreading the Chair for Western education among the Chinese, so far as may be possible with the limited funds at our disposal. (Applause.)

BILLS OF LADING.

With regard to the steps taken to obtain an increased valuation on Bills of Lading it is understood the leading lines have advanced the value limit up to £10 per foot and £200 per package respectively. This arrangement does not apply to all trades but shippers who have raised this question, chiefly those interested in Manchester goods, have, it is understood, been notified that claims will be dealt with on this basis.

"TON FOR TON."

The Chamber's previous representations on the "Ton for Ton" Policy have been courteously acknowledged by the Government. By the terms of the Peace Treaty Germany has recognised:—
"The principle of replacement ton for ton and class for class of all the merchant Shipping and Fishing Boats lost or damaged during the War. She is to cede to the Allies all German merchant ships of 1,000 tons gross and upwards, one half of the ships between 1,000 and 1,500 tons gross and one quarter of her steam trawlers and fishing boats and to build merchant ships for account of the Allies up to 300,000 tons gross annually for five years from May, 1919." (Applause.)
Gentlemen, whatever "wait and see" politicians may say about writing off enemy indemnities as bad debts it will take many years to expunge the memory

of Germany's diabolical and cowardly practices of firing on defenceless women and children in open boats and leaving helpless men on their submerged submarines to drown. I see no reason to alter the views this Chamber has expressed in no uncertain manner from the beginning of the enemy submarine frightfulness, views well known to coincide with the London and other leading Chambers, regarding the "Ton for Ton" policy. (Applause.)

THE RICE SITUATION.

My speech would not be complete without some reference to the rice situation so far as this affects Hongkong. The question may be divided into two parts, namely, the rice sifting and transhipment trade of Hongkong, and the rice consumed proper of Hongkong. As regards the former, a reference to the report will reveal to members that much time has been given by this Chamber in collaboration with the Association of Exporters and Dealers of Hongkong in arriving at an agreement for grading certain qualities of rice with the Rice Association of California. Copy of the agreement will be found on page 268.

This agreement has been signed by practically every Hongkong firm interested in the export of rice, and is undoubtedly of great value in regulating the relations between the merchants of this Colony and the rice importers of California. As regards the rice consumed in the Colony, I can say that the Government are very much alive to the situation and in the event of a shortage it is hoped it will be possible to deal with it in such a manner as will in no wise interfere with the delicately poised transhipment trade of the Colony. A considerable correspondence will be noted in the report on the question of indenting for supplies through the Crown Agents referred to previously in 1917, and the Committee is in entire sympathy with action taken by the Singapore Chamber, with a view to Government allowing local firms the opportunity to compete for this business, and it is hoped that the matter which has again been referred to the Secretary of State will receive favourable consideration. The Government have here an opportunity of assisting local British firms which it cannot be said it went out of its way to do before the war. It will be noted it is not suggested that the rate-payer should suffer, but merely that local British firms should be given the opportunity to compete for the business, which would appear to be in the rate-payers' interests.

TRIBUTES.

We have to acknowledge the good work of Professor Middleton Smith while he was at home in calling attention to the Press and elsewhere to the importance of trade and we do not doubt that what he was able to do in that respect will be for the advantage of trade of the Colony.

The Committee learned with deep regret of the sudden death in November last of Mr. C. H. Reiss in England. Mr. Reiss' valued assistance to this Chamber, when he was in Hongkong, will be remembered by many present members, and his willing and cordial services continued to be ever at our disposal, after he left China to assume charge of his firm's affairs in London. Only last June, gentlemen, as will be seen from the report, we were further indebted to him for so efficiently representing this Chamber at the Imperial Council of Commerce in London.

As usual there have been changes in our Committee during the year. We are again indebted to Mr. Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar for his valuable assistance and, as he is retiring and shortly leaving us, we wish him long life and every happiness in the Old Country. (Applause.)

I would also like to record the masterly manner in which the Hon. Mr. Dodwell has led and conducted the Chamber's affairs, as its Chairman during the year, and I can speak for him that he greatly regretted having to leave for home before this annual meeting could take place. Our thanks are also due to him and the Hon. Mr. John Johnstone for so ably representing this Chamber at the first of the proposed Conferences held in Shanghai last autumn when matters of common interest to all merchants in China and Hongkong were fully discussed and have been referred to in the Press. (Applause.) It is intended and hoped that this Conference will be held annually at some central Port (Shanghai would appear to be indicated in this respect), and that such Conferences will prove of incalculable value to trade and have far-reaching beneficial effects on the foreign trade of China.

I cannot close this address without associating this Chamber with the many good wishes expressed on all sides to the retiring British Minister to Peking, the Rt. Hon. Sir John Jordan. I explained to Sir John that we should like to have shown our appreciation of his great services in China, by entertaining him on his way home, but his brief stay in the Colony and the day being Sunday rendered this impracticable. Our wishes are none the less sincere for his health and happiness in his well-deserved retirement and we hope he may long be spared to place his intimate knowledge of affairs and vast experience in the Far East, at the service of His Majesty's Government at Home. (Applause.)
With these remarks I beg to move the adoption of the Report and Accounts, and when seconded I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability. (Applause.)

Mr. G. Miskin said:—Sir: It is my pleasant duty to rise and second the motion before the meeting. Our Chairman has already covered the principal features of the report very exhaustively and there is little that I can add to the excellent address to which we have just listened. I am sure, however, that I am giving expression to the feelings of the members of this Chamber, when I offer our very hearty thanks to the Committee and to their extremely energetic Secretary for the substantial work they have done on our behalf during the year under review. (Applause.) One point, to which our Chairman has already given prominence, cannot, I think, be too strongly emphasised. The greatest drawback, with which merchants have at present to contend is undoubtedly the extremely poor cable service, and until this service is improved a great many opportunities and a great deal of good business must of necessity be lost. In the matter of repairs of cables, the Telegraph Companies appear to be doing all that is possible and it is, of course, unreasonable to expect any immediate speeding up of the time taken by cables in transit. I cannot help thinking, however, that more might be done by the Telegraph Companies to prevent mutilation. At present it is the exception rather than the rule to receive a telegram containing no mutilated words.

On Page 29 of the report before you, you will have read of the action taken on December 12th, 1918 by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for the exclusion of German subjects from trading in that Colony. You will, most of you, recall the unanimity which prevailed in this Chamber when a similar resolution was adopted in 1917. It is extremely gratifying and encouraging to find how very general has been the endorsement in other Colonies of the timely action taken by the Hongkong British Chamber of Commerce at that time. Gentlemen, I have pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts. (Applause.)

HONGKONG'S TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Mr. H. PERCY SMITH: I want to say one word. I want to know whether the Chamber can take any notice or any action as regards the extremely unsatisfactory and inefficient telephone service of this Colony. (Applause.) I spoke some time ago to one of your officials and I was assured that there was general agreement with my view, but he said: "Why don't you go to the Chamber and talk about it?" I fancy, Sir, you can ask the incoming committee to consider the matter, and see whether anything can be done possibly to change the system altogether. We have, I know, an old-fashioned system. I have seen two systems, at work comparatively recently, and they were entirely different to ours and infinitely superior. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Smith, that is a matter which has not been brought before the committee before, and I have no doubt the incoming committee will take any necessary steps that may appear desirable in this matter. I may say, however, that Mr. Parker Nee, the Director of the Oriental Telephone Company, is in the Colony specially on this subject at the present time, and we trust that the result of his visit will be a distinct improvement, for there is not the slightest doubt that improvement is required, as you so justly point out. (Applause.)

The meeting then terminated.
The motion was carried unanimously.

THE COMMITTEE

On the proposition of Mr. J. L. Crockett, seconded by Mr. Monteith Webb, the following Committee was elected for the ensuing year:—The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, the Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr, the Hon. Mr. J. Johnstone, the Hon. Mr. N. J. Stabb, O.B.E., Messrs. A. O. Lang, C. S. Gubbay, C. H. P. Hay, J. A. Plummer, R. Ross Thomson, and G. M. Dodwell.

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members were elected, on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak: Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Messrs. E. A. Beaumont & Co., Messrs. Cooper & Co., Messrs. Walter Ford & Co., Messrs. Getz Bros. & Co. of the Orient Ltd., Messrs. Hastings, Hodge & Co., Ltd., Messrs. Holland Pacific Trading Co., Messrs. Hongkong Import and China Produce Export Co., Messrs. Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha, Messrs. Rudolf Wolff and Kew Ltd., Messrs. D. S. Stern & Co., Messrs. Silva Netto & Co., Messrs. Thomas W. Simmons & Co., Messrs. P. A. Xavier & Co.

SPORT.

YACHTING.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The race for the Commodore's and Vice-Commodore's cups for racing yachts was sailed off in splendid weather on Saturday. A fresh E.S.E. wind held throughout the afternoon. The course was Lyemun Beacon (P), Mark boat on starting line (S), Kowloon Rock (S), Channel Rocks (S)—3.8 miles.

The handicaps raced with the One Design, the winner taking the Commodore's cup and the first boat in the other class the Vice-Commodore's cup.

In the Handicap class "Dione" won and so gained the Commodore's cup. "Ailsa," a One-Design, was 2nd and took the Vice-Commodore's cup.

In the Heyward-Hays and Gael class, "The Gael" was first, winning the Commodore's cup, whilst "Urula," being 2nd, took the Vice-Commodore's cup.

The presented cups of the championship winners were sailed for in the same race and were won as follows:—

"Dorotha," cup for Handicap class, won by "Dione."

"Ailsa," cup for One Design, won by "Daphne."

"Urula," cup for Heyward-Hays, won by "Joan."

"Joan," cup for Gael class, won by "Gael."

The race for the Commodore's and Vice-Commodore's cups in the Cruiser classes was sailed off on Sunday, 29th inst., in a variable wind over the following course:—Tathong Rock (P), Lyemun Beacon (P), Channel Rocks (P), starting from Murray Pier and finishing at the Yacht Club, 12.9 miles.

In the English rig, "Norseman" won the Commodore's cup, and "Arma" secured the Vice-Commodore's cup. In the Chinese rig, "Niohe" won the Commodore's cup, and "Lada Jean" the Vice-Commodore's cup.

On Saturday next there will be a race for all those racing yachts which have sailed consistently throughout the season and have not won a prize for the "Nil Desperandum" cup, kindly presented by Mr. D. K. Blair.

On Sunday a "race" for those cruisers which have raced consistently and have not won a prize will be sailed. Mr. D. K. Blair having presented this prize.

Of the racing yachts the following are eligible:—"Jessica," "Colleen," "Halcyon," "Lola," and "Thecla" whilst in the cruisers "Aileen," "Feathers," "Queen Bee," "Mist," "Helen," and "Dorothy II." are eligible.

The closing cruise will be held on Saturday, April 10th.

TENNIS.

HONGKONG C.C. TOURNAMENT.

Only two matches in the above tournament were played yesterday. Mrs. Winslow and Redmond found very feeble opposition from Mrs. McElderry and J. B. Wood, when they defeated 6-2, 6-2. Redmond and his partner, who are now in the semi-final, are expected to win this competition.

Some hard hitting was witnessed in the open double match in which the two young Indians, A. A. Ramjahn and S. H. Ismail met and defeated Capt. Oliver and Capt. Davies, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. This match was well worth watching, for the Indians gave of their best and, almost always on the offensive, gave a very creditable display. Ramjahn drove magnificently from the base line and volleyed accurately, but missed several shots through over-zealousness. Ismail played a fine all round game, placing and lobbing very well and volleying with great precision. Oliver did his best to make up for the frequent deficiencies of his partner, but came a cropper when advancing to meet the hard drives of Ramjahn. Davies' first service seldom came off, and his second was so weak that the Indians did what they liked with it. He was foot-faulted on several occasions, and this no doubt put him off his game. Ramjahn and Ismail will now meet A. H. Ramjahn and Ng Sze Kwong. In spite of the fact that the latter pair are favourites for the final honours, we predict a close game. A. A. Ramjahn must learn to be a little less reckless.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES.

The services during the week are:—Holy Communion 7.45 a.m. and Matins 10.15 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Good Friday—Liturgy and Ante-Communion 10 a.m. Matins 11 a.m. Meditation on the Passion 12 noon, Evensong 6.30 p.m. with Address. Oratorio 9.15 p.m. Easter Eve, Saturday—Holy Communion 7.45 a.m., Evensong 6 p.m. The Chaplain will be in the Vestry before and after any of the Services. Persons entering or leaving during the Three Hours' Service are requested to do so during the singing of the Hymn.

In the Bishop's Chapel at St. Paul's College there will be a short Service at 6 p.m. to-day, Wednesday, and Thursday, when the Bishop will give a series of Addresses as follows:—

March 30th, Tuesday, before Easter.—Subject: "The Barren Fig Tree and Its Teaching." March 31st, Wednesday before Easter.—Subject: "Jesus Calls Us to Follow Him." April 1st, Thursday before Easter.—Subject: "Pilate Shakes Responsibility."

On Easter Sunday, April 4th, the services at St. John's Cathedral will be:—7 a.m. The Holy Communion; 7.45 a.m. The Holy Communion (Choral); 11 a.m. Matins; Sermon by the Lord Bishop; 12 noon The Holy Communion; 3.30 p.m. Children's Service; Address by Rev. M. W. Shewell, C.F.; 6 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

At the Peak Church on Easter Sunday, the Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a.m.

"DEATH, THE GREAT ADVENTURE."

SERMON BY THE REV. H. COPLEY MOYLE.

The Rev. H. Copley Moyle preached at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday evening from the text:—

"When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality then shall come to pass the saying that is written—Death is swallowed up in Victory." (1 Cor. 15.45.)

In many hearts, he said, there lies the love of adventure. In some nations and races it is more universally diffused than in others. Some people there are who seem content to go on from day to day living a humdrum ordinary safe life, but with others safety is little thought of and they live for novelty and excitement and adventure. I suppose the British people have in a large measure the love of adventure. It is that which has urged us to leave that little island in the Northern Seas and spread all over the world. The excitement of the unknown, the irritation of the merely secure, the need of something splendid and strange, who has not experienced it? It is, I suppose, the special characteristic of youth. It was that which led our young men to come forward in such numbers for the air force, but it is not only possessed by youth.

We find it sometimes still strong in the middle aged. We have, I suppose, all felt it as we left our native land for the first time, as we watched the final waving of our friends who had come to see us off, and the shores of England began to recede in the distance we were gripped with the love of the unknown: the spirit of adventure seized us and we began to build our castles in the air of all we should see and do in the unknown lands to which we were going. The insatiable desire for new experience is the flame that burns in all knight errantry that has ever been. It is the soul of romance and the secret of immortal youth. It is the driving force which inspired crusaders of old, and in modern times has driven men in the face of all dangers to explore the unknown parts of the globe and to try to fathom the secret of the Poles.

The point I want to put before you to-night is simply this: that this love of adventure, this fascination of the unknown, will be realised in a fuller measure than ever before, by the great adventure of death. Death is inevitable. Amongst the uncertainties of life, death is certain. We know not when it will come to us. We generally expect to go on living, but we know that one day we shall die. How or when or why, we know not, whether by sudden accident in youth, whether after long sickness, or at the end of a long life we know not, but this only we know that some day we shall die.

An old Indian officer was once telling of his battles of the Indian mutiny, of the most striking events in his professional career, and as he vividly described the skirmishes and battles and sieges and half-frenzied escapes, his audience hung upon his words in breathless excitement. At last he paused, and to their expressions of wonder he quietly replied: "I expect to see something much more wonderful than that." As he was over 70 and retired from the service, his listeners looked at him with surprise. There was a pause and then he said, in a solemn undertone "I mean in the first five minutes after death."

It always strikes me as I stand by the bedside of a soul passing from the body, how great is the adventure on which that soul is embarking, and how impossible it is for those who stand and watch, to enter into the adventure. How vast are the unknown possibilities of the spirit freed from the burden of the flesh! We stand at the bedside watching the feeble struggles of the departing spirit to make some final use of its worn-out body, and then the struggle is over, the hands drop, the breath ceases, and the spirit has fled. And we feel that now our friend has found the mystery of which we are so profoundly ignorant; he has gone out into a new world, where there is no longer burdened by the limitations of the flesh, and space, but with new powers he is fulfilling his part in the larger life of the world beyond.

No doubt, there was a time in the past history of the Church when there was a tendency to give too great prominence to the future life, when the thoughts of Christians were directed so exclusively to the future life that they were in danger of forgetting their duty in this world. But that day has gone by. Christian teaching of late years has laid stress on the social aspect of the Gospel. We have been continually reminded that the kingdom of God is to be set upon earth, and that it is a Christian's duty to improve the world and to do what we can to right the wrongs and banish the evils around us. That is important and should never be forgotten. The Christian must always be a social reformer. But there is now a danger of our being so entirely taken up with this world that we forget the world to come. After all if we are to live only some three score years and ten in this world and an eternity in the next world, it cannot be the part of a wise man to live as though he were only concerned with this world. If this world is, but the first stage of life and a short stage at that, it is surely foolish to treat it as if it were the whole of life. We need to-day to give the future life its proper emphasis in our thoughts. We need, not approach the subject in the spirit of fear, but rather in the spirit of adventure. The old story of the next world, as a bogey to frighten men from evil, has on the whole not been very successful. We shall be wiser, if we can connect the idea of the life beyond with hope rather than with fear, if we can make the idea attractive, so wide-spread. Of the conditions in the next world we know but little, not as for as I know have we received much real enlightenment as to those conditions from the much advertised communications

which spiritualists profess to have received from the spirit world. I have read many books which profess to give communications from the spirits of the dead but have never found in them anything which might not quite well have come from the mind, perhaps the subconscious mind, of the living.

The New Testament tells us some things about the life beyond the grave which may increase our desire to know more about it, but it is far from giving us anything like an exact account of the conditions of the future life.

One thing which is clearly taught is the continuity of personal identity. Our Lord, in His parable of the rich man and Lazarus, draws aside for a moment the curtain which hides the next world from us and He shows us the rich man and Lazarus, as they are in the next world, and He shows us also that he is already receiving the reward of his selfish life. The picture suggests that the spirit world is not a lonely land but one well inhabited; the rich man expects his brethren soon to be with him, and Lazarus is with Abraham, the father of the faithful. For him death has meant the passing away from the pain and the poverty of earth to be amongst the great heroes of the past. No longer a helpless beggar, he is now freed from the burden of the flesh and seems to be expected to take his part in a higher life of service for others.

So again as He hung upon the Cross our Blessed Lord taught that life continues through death. "Lord remember me when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom," was the prayer of the penitent thief, and in answer Christ gave him the assurance "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise," clearly suggesting a conscious life lived in the presence of Christ. Let us try to think of death, not as the end of this life, but as the beginning of a new and larger, freer, nobler life, a life full of new wonders, new achievements. Let us think of death, not as a separation from those we love here but rather as a great reunion with those whom we have loved and lost, who have gone before us into the land of Spirits, and as a great time of meeting with those mighty heroes of old whose lives we have read and admired. Let us try to banish the dread which is apt to accompany the thought of death. The sting of death is Sin, said St. Paul; were it not for Sin, death would not even be terrible, it would be only the falling asleep in this world, to awake in the next.

We have all noticed, says a modern preacher, "that expression of composed calm which comes on the faces of the newly dead. Some say it is due to muscular relaxation. Perhaps so. But perhaps not. One likes to think it may be something more. 'Who knows that it may not be a last message of content and acquiescence from those departing souls who at the moment of departure knew perhaps a little more than ourselves, a message of good cheer and pleasant promise by no means to be disregarded?'"

If we wish to die a victorious death we must concentrate our attention, not on the body that dies, but on the spirit which is immortal. If we live for that which is only earthly and material then indeed death will be a great catastrophe, but if we live for what is highest and best, then death will be the entrance into the nearer presence of Christ, the beginning of a life whose possibilities and glories and achievements we can now but faintly guess. "Now we see through a glass darkly but then face to face." God has great things in store for us. He made man to be immortal, and in the next world we shall know Him better and be able to serve Him more successfully.

ARRESTED AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS.

ALLEGED MURDERER IN THE DOCK.

On June 18th, 1919, two men had a quarrel in Queen's Road West and as a result one man stabbed the other and disappeared. The victim died, and although the Police made exhaustive enquiries they were unable to trace the man. On Thursday afternoon, however, information was received that the man was in the Colony and a Revenue Officer was sent to effect his arrest. The man was charged at the Magistrate's yesterday, with the murder and the case was remanded.

MAN ARMED WITH TWO REVOLVERS.

A SMART SENTENCE.

At the Magistrate's yesterday, a Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of two revolvers. Sergeant Caygill stated that he received information that there were some armed men in Reclamation Street and he sent out detectives to investigate. Defendant was arrested and the revolvers were found concealed in his girdle. The defendant made various excuses and accused several persons of giving him the revolvers, but these were found to be untrue. Mr. Smith sentenced defendant to twelve months' hard labour.

AN ARMLESS BEGGAR.

ARMS LOST WHEN DYNAMITING FISH.

A Chinese, who lost both his arms as a result of dynamiting fish at Stanley, was charged at the Magistrate's yesterday, with begging alms. Inspector Brazil asked the Magistrate to make the man an award from the Poor Box as he was unable to work and had an aged mother to support. Mr. Smith gave him \$2 and asked him to go back to Stanley.

OPIUM.

A Chinese was fined \$8,500, with the alternative of six months' hard labour, yesterday, for being in unlawful possession of 57 tads of prepared opium.

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THE HOUSE FOR VALUE

NEW SPRING GOODS

B.V.D. UNDERWEAR IN VESTS AND DRAWERS. COOL AND COMFORTABLE SOFT TO THE SKIN - - \$1.50 each.

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VIYELLA PYJAMAS. EXTRA

LIGHT WEIGHT FLANNEL IN FANCY STRIPES OR PLAIN CREAM \$11.00 suit.

JUST RECEIVED A BIG RANGE OF SILK SOCKS IN ALL COLOURS \$1.00, \$1.25, \$2.75.

15

Just received from U.S.A., a new shipment of Typewriters—different models.

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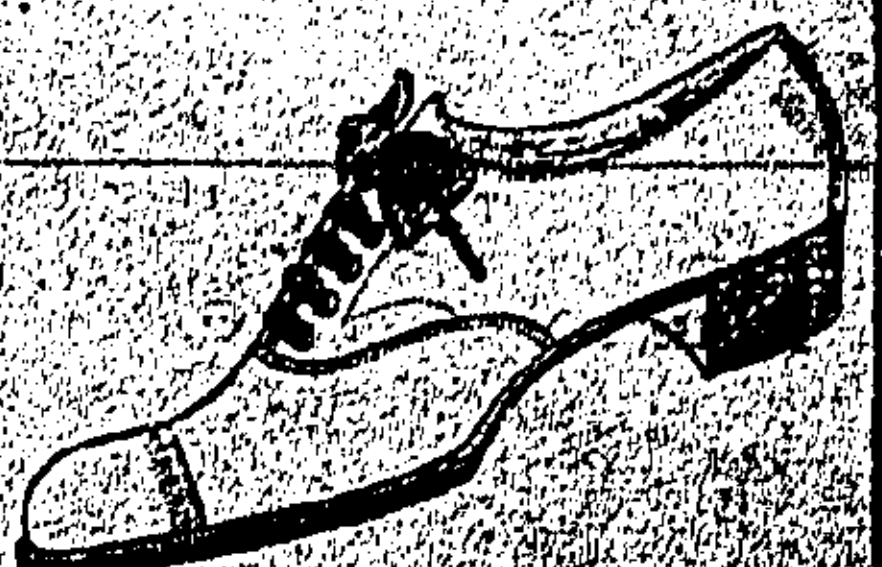
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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE

WE beg to notify Kowloon Residents and our Customers that we have appointed ON LEE COMPTON, 22, Nathan Road, as our distributing Agent at Kowloon.

WISEMAN, LTD.
648

TO LET

FURNISHED, to Married Couple without children, Burrington, 123, Peak, from May to October, at moderate rental. Apply—

H. E. POLLOCK,
Princes Buildings.
647

BANK HOLIDAYS

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 8 of 1919 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on FRIDAY, SATURDAY and MONDAY, APRIL 2ND, 3RD and 5TH, 1920. Hongkong, March 29th, 1920. 649

G. R.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE

MASTER HOLIDAYS

THIS DEPARTMENT will be entirely CLOSED on GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND. It will be Opened for all purposes till Noon, on SATURDAY, 3RD, and MONDAY, 5TH APRIL, 1920. Licensed Warehousemen will be entirely closed on those dates.

C. W. BECKWITH,
Superintendent,
Imports and Exports.
Hongkong, March 29th, 1920. 649

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

OCEAN STEAM SHIP COMPANY, LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "KEEMUN"

are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into Hoi's Wharf, Kowloon, where it will be at Consignee's risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after Mar. 29th. Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival. All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and noon within the free storage period. No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after April 3rd, will be subject to rent. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 17th, or they will not be recognised. No Fire Insurance will be effected. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, March 29th, 1920. 650

WANTED

A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER desires passage to England in lieu of services. Apply— Box 644, Care of "Daily Press" Office. 644

WANTED

EXPERIENCED Foreigner, holding responsible position, desires change. Shipping, Export or Import. Mastering four languages including English and French. Familiar with Bookkeeping and General Office-work. Stenotypist. No objection to outposts. Apply to— Box 633, Care of "Daily Press" Office. 632

FOR SALE

A FIVE-ROOMED SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE known as "BICTON" Plantation Road, No. 127, near Peak, area about 11,000 Square feet with Tennis Court area about 43,000 Square feet. Apply— JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER, Solicitors, Princes Buildings. 633

TO LET

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon. Apply to— HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD., Alexandra Buildings. 69

WAI KEE

FLAG AND RAILMAKER
No. 123, Des Vaux Road Central,
Top Floor,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 1833. 81

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

THE FIFTY-FIRST ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the undersigned at Noon TO-DAY (TUESDAY), MARCH 30TH. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from March 18th to March 30th, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers,
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.,
Hongkong, March 11th, 1920. 659

THE ASSOCIATION OF EXPORTERS & DEALERS OF HONGKONG

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the ASSOCIATION OF EXPORTERS & DEALERS OF HONGKONG will be held TO-DAY (TUESDAY), MARCH 30TH, 1920, at 4 p.m. precisely, in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, for the following purposes:—

1. To receive the Report and Accounts of the Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1919.
2. To elect a New Committee.
3. To transact any general business.

By Order, E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1920. 656

GULU-KALUMPONG RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on MARCH 30TH, 1920. The SHARE REGISTER of the above Company will be CLOSED from March 20th to 31st, both days inclusive.

By Order, LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Colonial Registrar.
Hongkong, March 22nd, 1920. 614

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Company's Hotel, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7TH, 1920, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st December, 1919.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST, to WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7TH, 1920, (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered. By Order of the Board of Directors, J. H. TAGGART,
Manager and Secretary.
Hongkong, March 26th, 1920. 639

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD. NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CERTIFICATE for 4 Shares Numbers 29385/30388 issued on 11th March, 1898, in the name of Mr. PING K. WANG, has been declared LOST, and should the same not be produced before the 31st March, 1920, the same shall be deemed cancelled and of no effect. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents. Hongkong, March 13th, 1920. 657

HANKOW BRITISH WAR MEMORIAL

IT having been decided that the HANKOW BRITISH WAR MEMORIAL shall take the form of a marble and/or granite monument on the Board the Committee invites those desirous of submitting designs to communicate with the undersigned from whom further particulars can be obtained. CHAS. A. FRASER,
Union Buildings,
Hankow. 638

PUBLIC AUCTION

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY to be sold in one lot by Public Auction, on TUESDAY, the 6th day of April, 1920 at 3 o'clock p.m. at his Sales Rooms at No. 6, Duddell Street, Victoria, Hongkong, by Mr. GEORGE P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.

The Property consists of:— All that piece or parcel of ground situate at Victoria, Hongkong, registered in the Land Office as SECTION D. or INLAND LOT No. 968 together with all the messuage and premises thereon known as No. 65, Wyndham Street. For further particulars and conditions of sale Apply to— Messrs. WILKINSON & GRIST, Vendor's Solicitors, No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, or Mr. GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer, No. 6, Duddell Street, Hongkong. 697

FRENCH LESSONS

S. MOUBION.

11, MORRISON HILL ROAD.

AUCTIONS

G. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY APPOINTMENT, HUGHES AND HOUGH, AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND ADMIRALTY. General Auctioneers, Share, Coal and General Produce Brokers

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (For Account of the Concerned), TO-DAY (TUESDAY), March 30th, 1920, at 11 a.m. at No. 8, Humphreys Avenue, Kowloon, SUNDAY

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, etc., etc., therein contained, consisting of:—

Teakwood small Sideboard and Dinner Wagon, Overmantel, Rattan Furniture and Matching Glass Ware, Crockery and Pictures, two Teakwood Wardrobes (Bevelled Mirrors), two single and one double Bed, Shanghai Bath, Ice Chest, Meat Safe, Cooking Stove, etc., etc.

Also One Piano by Challen & Son, London, in first class condition. Catalogues will be issued. TERMS:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (For Account of the Concerned), TO-DAY (TUESDAY), March 30th, 1920, commencing at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Rooms, No. 4, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street, A small Consignment of

HOUSEHOLD LINENS, etc., etc., comprising:—

Turkish Towels, Bath Towels, Bath Sheets, Double Bed Sheets, Bedstepping and Drawnwork Bedspreads, Table Covers, Crochet and Drawnwork Dollies.

Also A few lots of Brass Jardinieres, Large Kinross Vases, Japanese Vases.

Two Travelling bags and Suit Cases. (All new goods and in small lots) TERMS:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (For Account of the Concerned), TO-DAY (TUESDAY), March 30th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street, TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD

FURNITURE, GLASS AND BRASS MOUNTED BEDSTADS, TEAKWOOD TRIVY BEDSTADS, CARPETS, etc., etc., comprising:—

Chesterfield Sofas, Arm-chairs (new) Folding Card and Occasional Tables, One Upholstered Suite, Bedroom Furniture comprising Teakwood Trunk Bedsteads, large and small Wardrobes, Dressing Tables and Chairs, Washstands, etc., (fumed Teakwood), Sideboards, Dinner Wagons, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, etc., Dinner Service, Crockery, and Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, etc., Bath Room Utensils, Electric Plated Ware.

Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, a quantity of Blackwood Furniture, Blackwood Fire Screens, Side Tables, Chairs, Cabinets, Pictures, Carpets new and second-hand.

Also Four Pianos, One Enamelled Bath, Camera, etc., etc. TERMS:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (For Account of the Concerned), On WEDNESDAY, March 31st, 1920, commencing at 5.00 p.m. at their Sales Rooms, No. 4, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street, A Collection of

GENUINE POSTAGE STAMPS, consisting of:—

A fine selection of War Stamps of British Colonies and New Europe, rare Ceylon, Newfoundland, etc., etc.

On view from Friday, 28th March, 1920. TERMS:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

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Corner of Haiphong & Hankow Roads Tel. K. 1. Tel. Address: Palace

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Outside under personal supervision of the Proprietor.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MARCH 30TH, 1920.

THE SITUATION IN GERMANY

Of the situation in Germany there seems only one thing on which a definite judgment may be formed on the news at present available to us, and that is that Herr Kapp's monarchical coup had no more chance of permanent success than did the similar abortive stroke by CHANG HSIUN in China three years ago. All the circumstances point to the conclusion that "monarchical rule will be no longer possible in Germany. In other respects the situation remains complex and obscure, but that the whole Treaty of Peace is gravely imperilled by what is taking place is perfectly obvious. How much the attitude of the Republican Senators in the United States, who have finally succeeded in carrying a vote against the ratification of the Treaty, has been responsible for the civil warfare which is going on in Germany cannot be gauged, though it can hardly be doubted that America's action has been a potent influence in encouraging defiance of the Treaty stipulations, and jeopardising once more the peace of Europe. From the general character of the news which has reached the East of the situation in Germany, there seems to be ample justification for the warning given by the Temps that all the conflicting parties in Germany are about to begin an offensive against the Peace Treaty, and that there is reason to fear that German anarchy may be followed by German aggression. Whether after what has taken place in the United States Senate we can count upon the United States participating with the Allies, with whom she was associated in the war, in now taking measures for the effectual disarmament of Germany is not a question which can be affirmatively answered with any confidence. Within a month three Governments in Germany have come to grief. The Esch Ministry, which fled from the capital upon Kapp's monarchical coup, has returned to Berlin to replace the Baezel Ministry, and then to resign.

The protest strikes organised by German Labour when Kapp seized the reins of Government have developed into civil war. Sanginary fighting between troops and armed bodies of workmen is reported from various parts of Germany. The Communists, which we assume to be another name for the workers in revolt, hold Dusseldorf, Elberfeld, Stettin and Essen. They are reported to be carrying everything before them, especially in the industrial regions of Westphalia and the Rhineland; but there are simultaneous reports of formidable gatherings and drilling of troops prepared to fight the workmen. There is thus a prospect of bloodshed on a far greater scale in Germany than has so far occurred. Though the Versailles Treaty has been violated by the presence of 30,000 German troops in the Ruhr Valley, the Allies have refrained from military action; they are "watching vigilantly." The French Government, it is stated, will only act in agreement with the Allies regarding the necessary measures, and a Washington telegram has told us that the United States has decided to join Great Britain and Italy in opposing Allied military action for the preservation of order in the Ruhr Valley. It may be said that this does not necessarily rule out any joint action to compel the fulfilment by Germany of her Treaty obligations, in respect of the occupation of that territory; but so long as 30,000 German troops remain there, ostensibly for the preservation of order, the general public in Germany and elsewhere may be excused for regarding the Ruhr Valley stipulation of the Treaty as practically a dead letter. While all this has been taking place M. MILLERAND continues to give assurances in the French Chamber of the continued unity of the Allied Powers, but casts a doubt on his own statement when he emphasises the gravity of the militarist activity in Germany and declares that the Allies will not misunderstand him when he says, with a unanimous public opinion behind him, that France, who would be the victim of a fresh attack, cannot await a solution indefinitely. If we are to give those words their ordinary meaning, they intimate to the world at large that unless the Allies quickly make up their minds to co-operate in the strict enforcement of the terms of the Versailles Treaty, France, in self-protection, will be compelled to make the effort alone. M. MILLERAND's latest speech but increases the obscurity of the situation, and the only comment is possible at present to offer on the situation is that it is obviously premature to talk of the world "gradually settling down to an assured peace" until there exists in Germany a stable Government willing and able to fulfil its pledges; until the intricate Russian Question is definitely settled, and until we can see the end and issue of the tribulation and bloodshed in Russia.

In attempting to alight from a tramcar at Shaukiwan on Sunday, a man fell down and was seriously injured.

A Harbin correspondent states that Rs. 2,400 was the price recently paid at Irkutsk for a half-pound loaf of bread.

The name of Mr. Joseph Duguid, Colonial Dispensary, has been added to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

A Chinese, believed to be insane, was rescued from the harbour on Sunday. The Police are unable to account for his behaviour.

A Chinese girl was knocked down by a motor-car at Shaukiwan on Sunday and was removed to hospital, suffering from multiple abrasions.

Eleven Curtiss seaplanes, intended for the use of the Far East Aerial Transport Co., were brought to Hongkong on Sunday on the s.s. *Dacre Castle*.

The King's Exequatur empowering Mr. Octavio Diaz Canseco to act as Consul-General for Peru in Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

A flight which is described as unique in the annals of Japanese aviation has taken place this month. Three out of four Japanese aviators crossed the Straits of Tsushima.

A Chinese has been arrested by the Police on a charge of grievously wounding another, as a result of a quarrel. The victim was attacked with a chopper on the arm and is at present in hospital.

It has been suggested that American tourists visiting England this spring and summer be accommodated on war vessels, there being insufficient room in the London hotels for the anticipated number.

The J.C.J.L. *Typanos*, which recently went ashore near Hoihow, came into Harbour on Sunday night on her own steam. No estimate can yet be made of the damage, which is not believed to be serious.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, and Mrs. Wakeman left the Colony yesterday by the *Empress of Japan* on a visit to England. Mrs. T. Arthur and children left by the same steamer for Canada.

The Mr. A. H. Compton, who left the Colony by the *Nanking* on Friday, was apparently a "transient," and not the manager of Messrs. David Sassoon & Co. Mrs. Compton left the Colony by the *Andre Lebon*.

A rumour is current among the Chinese that arrangements are to be made for recruiting in Shanghai, or the North, a number of coolies to work silver mines in Mexico, where there has lately been a decreased output owing to a shortage of labour.

For snatching from the head of a Chinese woman in Queen's Road, a band with which Chinese women cover their temples, a man was sentenced at the Magistracy, yesterday, to six months' hard labour, 12 strokes of the birch and four hours' stocks.

Capt. L. d'Oliveira, Secretary of the China Coast Officers' Guild, leaves for Shanghai to-day on the *Sui Yang*, the arbitration proceedings in the recent shipping dispute having been completed. The award of the arbitrators, Messrs. Owen Hughes and N. L. Watson, will not be known for some time.

The Emperor of Japan is to be present at the launching of the battleship *Matsu* at the Yokohama naval yard in May. The new battleship has a displacement of 35,000 tons and will be the largest unit in the Japanese navy. The keel of the *Amagi*, a 45,000 ton battle cruiser, will be laid in October.

Mr. Frederick Tillson, manager of Foreign Publicity, Messrs. Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago, has arrived in the Colony and is staying at the King Edward Hotel. Mr. Tillson, who is touring the Orient, has come out for the purpose of establishing branch offices in Japan, Shanghai, etc., and will be glad to meet anyone interested in the Company.

A new and somewhat aristocratic Japanese Club has recently been opened in Cavendish Square. The house, says the London correspondent of the *Japan Advertiser*, was taken over about six months ago and is one of the most palatial in the Square, being just opposite that of Mr. Asquith. To say that the Club is new, however, is not strictly correct, for a much smaller Club existed for several years in Mortimer Street, and this one formed the nucleus of the new one; the old Club boasted about 180 members, whereas the new one, although only in existence a couple of months, has a membership of 350.

The Royal Naval Quadrille Club held its final dance for the season last week and in a brief speech the President, (Chief Writer T. H. Smith), regretted on behalf of the club the sudden termination of the season owing to the room being unavailable for the proposed final date, viz. March 30th. He thanked all patrons for their support and attendance during the season and remarked that ere next dancing season, practically the whole of the Committee, including himself, would have left for home, but he hoped the Royal Naval Quadrille Club would not cease to exist on that account. He trusted others would come forward when the time arrived and fill the gaps, so that the pleasant weekly evening could continue, although, perhaps with the large fleet which would then be concentrated here, naval dancing clubs would be more numerous, and it might be found advisable to arrange a fortnightly instead of a weekly dance.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[THROUGH ROUTE'S AGENCY.]

MILITARY MISSION FROM CHINA

LONDON, March 25th. H.M. the King received at Buckingham Palace, to-day, Lieut.-General Tsang Tsao-li, who is on a military mission from the Chinese Government.

SENSATIONAL SINGAPORE DIVORCE

LONDON, March 26th.

In the Divorce Court a decree nisi was granted to Mrs. Jessie Winifred Niblett on the ground of bigamy and adultery of her husband Mr. William Charles Niblett, a barrister, formerly of Singapore. Counsel for the petitioner who is insane and presented her petition through her father, stated that soon after the couple arrived at Singapore, the petitioner discovered that her husband had resumed relations with his former mistress. She returned to England and subsequently developed antipathetic tendencies and was admitted into an asylum.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH RUTHER'S AGENCY.]

THE UNREST IN GERMANY
FIGHTING IN THE RUHR BASIN.

BAUWEL, March 23rd.

A telegram from Aix-la-Chapelle confirms that all towns and important points on the Ruhr are guarded by armed workmen. Governmental troops, numbering 30,000 to 35,000, have been withdrawn to the left bank of the Ruhr, and are now concentrated around Wesel. The approaching army of Communists outnumber the Governmental troops by four to one. It is reported that a battle is in progress.

BERLIN RESUMING NORMAL ASPECT.

BERLIN, March 23rd.

The city is resuming its normal condition. The railways and posts have been resumed, and the shops re-opened.

A violent Spartacist attack on the Town Hall at Quedlinburg was beaten off by the troops who re-took the railway. Very heavy losses were sustained on both sides. The Governmental troops have recaptured Halle after two days' artillery firing.

COMMUNIST ARMY IN WEST-PHALLIA.

COPENHAGEN, March 23rd.

Newspaper reports from Berlin say that the Communists of Westphalia have formed an army of at least 10,000 men, equipped with machine guns and armoured cars. They already hold a dozen small industrial towns.

SITUATION AT KIEL.

COPENHAGEN, March 23rd.

A message from Hamburg states that Admiral Meurer has been released.

The naval men at Kiel, who arrested their officers, demand to choose their own officers, otherwise they will disband. As the Defence Minister has ordered the units of the forces to be kept together under all circumstances the demand will not be granted. Meanwhile, the Navy has placed itself at the disposal of the Government, if necessary, to combat the revolt of the Left Extremists.

A message from Essen says that the Revolutionary Council claims that the revolutionists hold the entire industrial region, and a Red Army, of fifty thousand, is victoriously approaching Wesel where is the last remnant of the Regular troops.

DESPERATE HOUSE-TO-HOUSE FIGHTING.

BERLIN, March 23rd.

Heavy fighting between the Regulars and the insurgents has taken place to the north of Spandau. Regulars bombarded the village of Henningsdorf, and drove out a strong band of insurgents after a violent house-to-house fighting. Many insurgents' casualties are reported.

Violent fighting also took place at Adersdorf, near Potsdam. Troops advanced as far as Koepenick where they restored order.

HERR NOSKE RESIGNS.

BERLIN, March 23rd.

Herr Ebert has accepted Herr Noske's resignation which is due to pressure from the workers and also to his failure to nip the Kapp plot in the bud.

LABOUR CABINET WANTED.

LIMA.

Noske has resigned and the Independent Socialists have demanded the formation of a Labour Cabinet.

DEMONSTRATION AT CORK FUNERAL.

LONDON, March 23rd.

The funeral of the Lord Mayor of Cork was attended with the most remarkable scenes. All the police and military were withdrawn from the streets, and 3,000 Sinn Féin Volunteers, wearing Republican uniforms, and 300 priests headed the two-mile long procession. All denominations were represented, and work was suspended in many towns.

RIOTING IN DUBLIN.

A detachment of troops was mobbed by a crowd in Dublin. The troops replied with a volley, killing two and wounding several.

ARGYLLSHIRE BY-ELECTION.

NO CHANGE.

LONDON, March 23rd.

In the Argyllshire by-election, necessitated by the appointment of Sir W. Sutherland as Junior Lord of the Treasury, the result was:—

Sir W. SUTHERLAND (Coalition) 10,187

The Rev. MALCOLM MACDONALD (Labour) 5,466

Co. Liberal Majority 4,689.

[In the last Election, Sir W. Sutherland, for sometime Private Secretary to Mr. Lloyd George, had secured 11,970 votes as against 2,789 given to the Labour candidate, Mr. L. MacNeil Weir.]

CANADIAN NAVAL MYSTERY

NAVAL COLLEGE REFUSES
BRITAIN'S OFFER.

OTTAWA, March 23rd.

A semi-official statement confirms the statement that the Government has decided not to proceed with Lord Jellicoe's programme; consequently, it demobilises the nucleus of the crews, dismantling the dock-yards.

The Naval College refuses Britain's offer of warships.

REVIVING THE HAMBURG-AMERIKA.

CLEVER GERMAN RUSE.

New York, March 23rd.

The American Steamship Owners' Association has passed a resolution, unanimously, opposing the allocation of 180 American-owned ships to the Hamburg-Amerika Company's routes in accordance with the recent vote of the Senate Commerce Commission.

The resolution mentions the report that the Hamburg-Amerika Line is trying to obtain an agency for American ships which will be operated so as to re-establish the Hamburg-Amerika's business throughout the world.

TRANSPORT CONDITIONS IN
BRITISH ISLES.

SIR ERIC GEDDES' ASSURANCE.

LONDON, March 23rd.

Sir Eric Geddes, inaugurating the Institute of Transport, denied that chaos existed in the transport industries. The imports and exports of the Port of London exceeded those in 1913. The transport agencies, by meeting the task before them, were contributing towards the reconstruction of the country.

COAL SITUATION AT HOME.
NEGOTIATIONS BROKEN OFF.

LONDON, March 23rd.

The negotiations between the miners' executive and the Coal Controller in respect to the demand of the additional 2s. have been broken off.

Mr. Hodges stated that the position is extremely grave and serious. The Miners' Conference is deciding on the course of action to-morrow.

WHY THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE
BROKEN OFF.

LONDON, March 23rd.

The breaking off of the coal negotiations appears to be due to the rising temper of the miners, who, rightly or wrongly, have been very angry since the announcement of the reduction of the prices of bunker coal.

The miners accuse the Cabinet of inspiring the reduction with a view to defeating the miners' demand for a 3s. advance, as it is now declared that the advance, which will cost £24,000,000, would have to be added to the Home coal bill; hence it will be very unpopular throughout the country.

EARLIER CABLES.

SUDDEN CHANGE.

LONDON, March 23rd.

The situation between the Government and the Miners' Federation is that the latter has agreed to accept a percentage basis in respect of the wages increase, provided that the Government increases its offer from 20 to 22 1/2 per cent. The Federation executive ask that the 22 1/2 per cent. increase be accompanied by guarantees of a daily increase of three shillings for all miners exceeding eighteen years of age, two shillings from 16 to 18 and a shilling for those under sixteen. A postponement until March 29th was made to enable the Government to examine the figures preparatory to making a definite proposal. A peace settlement is confidently expected.

BRITISH EMPIRE ORDER.

NUMBER OF NEWSPAPER
CORRESPONDENTS KNIGHTED.

LONDON, March 23rd.

The publication on March 30th, of a bestowal of the British Empire Order for war services. Three dames grand cross and fifteen knights grand cross include Sir John Denison Pender. Among fourteen dames-commanders appear the vocalist Clara Butt-Rumford. A number of well-known war correspondents are included in the knight commandments, notably Philip Gibbs, Percival Phillips, Henry Russell (Reuters' correspondent with the British Forces), Beach Thomas, and Percy Robinson. Seven others among the commanders include Reuters' correspondents, Lester Lawrence, on the French front, and Fergus Ferguson.

'VARSITY BOAT-RACE.

CAMBRIDGE WINS BY FOUR LENGTHS.

LONDON, March 23rd.

In the Varsity Boat-race, Cambridge won by four lengths in 21 minutes and 11 seconds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A PASSENGER'S GRUMBLE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Wooming, off Shanghai, March 23rd.

Sir.—Much dissatisfaction has been expressed by through passengers on the *Empress of Japan* owing to expectations, which had been anticipated, of seeing the great emporium of the Far East, Shanghai, not having been realised.

The *Empress of Japan* arrived at Wooming and dropped anchor on the morning of the 24th inst. Meanwhile a notice had been posted up on the notice board that a launch for passengers, whose destination was Shanghai would be alongside at 3.30 p.m., but that "through passengers would not have an opportunity of visiting Shanghai." The latter were given to understand that there would not be sufficient time available for them to go up to Shanghai and return, as the steamer would be leaving in three or four hours' time. Passengers therefore contented themselves with pacing the deck, or slumbering off the *dolce far niente* according to temperament. However, as the hours went by, and the *Empress* continued noisily discharging cargo, some of the more sceptical of the passengers began to doubt the veracity of the motives that had been urged against going ashore, and the feeling of chagrin was accentuated later, as during the whole night discharging operations were carried on. As a matter of fact, the *Empress* did not leave until 10 a.m. of the 25th inst.

The general feeling among passengers was one of keen disappointment at the uncharitable attitude on the part of the steamer's executive, or agents, towards them. The more so as the same attitude had been experienced a few days previously at Taikoo.

The *Empress of Japan* arrived off Taikoo at 6 a.m. on the morning of the 22nd inst. for the purpose of disembarking our coolies, being a contingent of the Chinese Labour Corps. The vessel lay at anchor all that day. There was a general wish expressed on the part of the passengers to go ashore, but after luncheon a notice was exhibited on the notice-board to the effect that the vessel would leave immediately. This emphatic announcement effectively quenched any banking on the part of the innocent aboard for sight seeing in Taikoo. The *Empress of Japan* left Taikoo at 11 a.m. on the 23rd inst.

Something is amiss when liners of the reputation of the *Empress* boats, do not give facilities to their passengers for visiting interesting points of stoppage, especially when a simple time offers therefor as in the instances above mentioned. Yours, etc.,

W. REES HARRISS.

BURGLAR'S MISFORTUNE.

BREAKS HIS LEG WHILE
ESCAPING.

Two months ago a healthy, well-built man, to-day an emaciated cripple for life, is the condition of a Chinese who tried to gain a living by waging war on Society. In January last the man broke into a house by placing a plank against a window, scaling it, and then dexterously removing a pane of glass. He entered the premises and as it was dark, struck a match and moved about the hall. This woke up an inmate of the house, a woman, who at first was under the impression that it was a cat. As the noise continued, the woman peeped through the couple and saw the man. She immediately ran downstairs and raised an alarm. The man, becoming terrified, followed her, rushed up the staircase of another house and jumped over a wall. When the pursuers came up they found him lying unconscious. He was removed to the hospital where he remained for two months. He was discharged yesterday and produced at the Magistrate's on charges of house-breaking, theft and being in unlawful possession of a dagger.

Mr. Smith sentenced defendant to eighteen months' hard labour.

BOLSHEVIK ATTEMPT TO CONVERT
TURKOMANS.

Information from a reliable source throws an amusing light upon Bolshevism in Turkestan, says *The Englishman*. The Bolsheviki commission have issued a pompous message to the effect that being convinced that the Turkomans have imbibed Bolshevism, principles they have decided that this noble nation is to be allowed every facility towards advancement. As a first step ten per cent. are to be conscripted for military service to support the principles of Bolshevism. But the ungrateful Turkomans have not seen matters in quite the same light, and many of them are hastily making for Khiva, Afghanistan, Turkistan and the desert regions in order to escape the privilege which the Bolsheviki kindly propose to confer on them.

WOMEN IN HONGKONG.

March 23rd.

"Roderick Random" wrote about tram congestion a few days ago, and the next day his suggestion as to extra trams between 9 and 3.30 p.m. was adopted, but still the congestion continues. On Monday morning business men kicked their heels on the tram-station, from 9 to 3.30 a.m. and were barged out of five successive trams, while many women forced their way in. There are, of course, times when certain women are obliged to encroach upon the business hours and it is hard on them to expect them to sacrifice themselves when their affairs demand their presence at a certain time, and one is faced with the question which threatens to become a thread-bare "What is to be done about it?" The inconvenience grows greater daily and the only remedy seems to be to cut out all intervals, thus increasing the accommodation by an accelerated service. Once again I make the suggestion that women and soldiers should be charged maximum fares during the busy hours, say, between 9.30 and 9.30 a.m., and 12.40 and 3.30 p.m. I am pretty certain that a marked decrease in the number of women and soldiers, using the cars during these hours, would immediately be apparent. The fact of having to pay an extra 30 cents, over and above the season ticket, would be remembered, in those little moments, so quickly fleeting, when we have just one more word at the street corner, or buy just one more packet of pins. Also the maximum fare should be charged to passengers travelling to Kennedy Road and Bowen Road by these cars. This procedure is followed in many big cities when congestion on trams increases, and it helps to ease the situation. Night trams have been worked to their full capacity during the last fortnight.

"Hongkong society" has been having a "fling" during the Temper season, and I think most people, who have been once to the *Marietta* Temper and Graham Browne with their excellent company, have endeavoured to see them off as possible, in spite of the prices. It has been a wonderful treat to be able to see a series of clever comedies handled and interpreted with a finish and perfection. Miss Temper's repertoire has included many well-known plays. The most popular have been "Penelope," "The Marriage of Kitty," and "Mrs. Dot." It is difficult to discriminate in point of comparison, for in all three Miss Temper lives and interprets her author's ideas and gives one a completely convincing portrayal of charm and humour and pathos, and all with her nameless grace of movement. Her singing too is delightful, a voice of purity and sweet quality, produced and trained to artistic perfection. In all her efforts she has the support and co-operation of Mr. Graham Browne, who is particularly fine in character parts. His greatest opportunities to shine occur in such characters as Fim Wally in the *Penelope*, or Killikrannie, or James Blenkinsop in "Mrs. Dot." In the rest of the company the most experienced and highly-trained actor is Mr. Ashton Jarry, closely followed by Mr. Herbert Millard, who does not take many big parts, but is responsible for the stage management—no mean undertaking for a Temper company. Miss Doris Gilham is generally entrusted with the part of a middle-aged and worldly woman—her "star" part is a clever character sketch in "Mary Goes First." I speak from past experience, as the play, which is a delightful combination of absurdity and clever situations from beginning to end, is to be performed after my return to press. The younger members of the company, who sustain big parts, Miss Dorothy Hamilton and Mr. Roger Barry, promise to go far and justify Miss Temper's decision in taking them on her world-tour.

Miss Temper considers "Outcast" the finest of all her plays; it is a bit of pure realism—a problem play which does not solve the problem of the eternal question. A play that, might easily be sordid and is yet handled with a delicacy and that touch of romance and humour which makes it possible for us all, especially us women, who lead lives guarded from temptation and the horrible aspects of life to realise that, but for the circumstances of our birth and comparative prosperity, a very thin line divides our morals from such as the "Outcast." One is bound to come to the conclusion that Valentine, the beautiful, society girl was more of a prostitute by nature than Miriam, the loving and devoted woman who longed to enter the realms of respectability and who, by her strength, cleverness and personal charm, dragged her lover back from the gates of Hell.

Many people in Hongkong have seen Miss Mary Temper and appreciated and admired her before she, or they, came to Hongkong, but no one has seen the wonderful stage settings, painted on curtains which she has brought with her and which are an entirely new departure in stage history. This new setting is, Miss Temper says, only in its infancy and she has wonderful schemes for further development to be carried out when she reaches London. In the meantime, we have seen our rickety, dirty stage transformed into artistic drawing-rooms, Scotch castles, river-lawns, boudoirs and studies that will have spurred many of us to re-decorate our own homes and try to produce the same wonderful harmony of colours.

Miss Temper's clothes, too, have caused many curious sights and made us more conscious than ever of the shortcomings of our local tailors. Not that they are to be entirely despised. They are local tailors and dress-makers, must have been pretty busy last week preparing some of the beautiful dresses that were worn at the Peak Hotel Fancy Ball on Thursday, the 29th inst. The occasion was the wind-up of the winter season dances at the Peak Hotel, which have taken place fortnightly on Thursday. They have proved a delightful and easy mode of entertainment for many people, and the custom has been to give a dinner party at the Peak Hotel before the dance.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

COMPANY REPORT.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.

The report of the Board of Directors for the year ended December 31st, 1919 states:—

The profit on working account amounted to \$262,549.33, as compared with \$188,975.49 for the corresponding period of 1918, being an increase of \$73,573.91. The balance at credit of profit and loss account, after allowing for depreciation, bad and doubtful, etc., and including the sum of \$43,793.28 brought forward from December 31st, 1918, amounted to \$287,254.03, and after deducting the interim dividend amounting to \$80,000 paid in August, 1919, the sum of \$187,254.03 remains, which the directors recommend apportioning as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of \$4 per share on 20,000 shares	\$80,000.00
To pay a bonus of \$2 per share on 20,000 shares	40,000.00
To pay a bonus to European Staff	6,875.00
To transfer to general reserve	56,033.08
To carry forward to new account	4,355.95
	\$187,254.03

DIRECTORATE.

Mr. A. O. Lang resigned his seat on the Board on July 31st, 1919. Mr. C. S. Gubbay was invited to join the Board on February 23rd, 1919. Mr. Gubbay's appointment requires confirmation at this meeting. Sir Ellis Kadoorie, Kt., retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

The accounts for the year under review have been audited by Messrs. A. R. Lowe, F.C.A., and H. Perry Smith, F.C.A. Messrs. A. R. Lowe and H. Perry Smith offer themselves for re-election.

THE "TEMPEST" COMEDIES.

LAST NIGHT'S SUCCESSFUL PLAY.

In Anthony Wharton's comedy "At the Barn" last night at the Theatre Royal, Miss Marie Temper, as Molly Blair, the music hall artist, who sought to escape from the fulfilment of an injudicious promise by paying an unorthodox fortnight's visit to the country home of Mr. Kenneth Maxwell, the author, had a part which she filled with very appealing sweetness. Full of caprice, she was alternately charming and shrewish, and when the play ended in her choosing the right path, instead of the wrong one, she felt that, as James Crane so nicely put it, "there are still a few good women left in the world." As Kenneth Maxwell, Mr. Graham Browne had an extremely difficult part, but no one who saw him can say that he did not fill it most acceptably. Miss Dorothy Hamilton had a small part as Blanche Moore, an actress friend of Molly Blair's. This charming lady's vacuous flight was very provocative of mirth, and she scored a distinct success. Miss Doris Gilham took the part of Eugenia Hawes, the rector's sister, and made the most of the short scene in which the rector's sister tries to force Maxwell to order the "abandoned" Molly Blair out of his house. Messrs. Ashton Jarry and Roger Barry, as Maxwell's bachelor friends; Mr. Herbert Millard, as Lord Clonbarry; Miss Armorel Kemp as Grace Trevelyan; and Mr. Vernon Thompson were all good.

To-night the company closes its Hongkong season with Mr. Henry Arthur Jones' comedy "Mary Goes First."

I am not going to say that a great number of people did not do the costly part of the entertainment in their own homes and bring their parties on afterwards, nor can I deny that quite a number of the hotel guests resented this easy way of getting something for nothing, but there does not do to be too critical and after all *noblesse oblige* comes under the obligation that cannot be conscripted. I do not know where everyone came from that night, but every corner was packed for dinner and one hall-room could not hold all the guests afterwards. It was a delightful evening and everyone congratulated Mrs. Blair on the arrangements and the amount of trouble she had taken upon this and all other occasions, during the past season.

Hongkong is quite an amusing place to live in these days. Everyday ships seem to empty themselves of everything but mairies. People pour in from all corners of the earth, especially from America. It seems as if our Yankies couldn't abide home, now that Pussfoot reigns supreme. They are always a moderate race, but like the rest of us enjoy a glass with a bit of spirit in it. You watch them at hotels and licensed restaurants, and you will soon see that the first thing they ask for is the wine card, over which such careful study is expended. "Rooms in hotels are in such demand that I am told that, in some quarters, a room is more like a camp than a bed chamber and speculation is rife as to the holding capacity of hotels. Hotels are refusing to take people in on monthly terms. One cannot blame them for gathering a harvest, and besides the traveller must do down somewhere and if all the permanent residents of hotels and boarding houses were economically forced to leave, think of the procession of house-hunters that would march to the Government offices and demand an immediate supply of houses.

Some day the Government will feel the need of an Aladdin's carpet or ring to move a city over-night. They seem to be moving now, and perhaps by the end of the year, when our new road to the Peak is finished and another tramway built, we shall all have all the houses and all the transport we want, and by that time the Bolsheviki will have taken everyone's fortunes away and no one will be able to travel. The tourists will cease to invade our shores and there will be a slump in property.

THE SUNDAY.

BANKING IN THE EAST.

THE BEWILDERED NEWCOMER.

Writing in the *Monetary Times* on the subject of Canada's opportunity in the Far East, Mr. Geo. Wilson makes reference to the establishment of the Pacific Union Bank, in which Canada is directly interested, and talking of banking difficulties, he says:—

The Far Eastern banking field presents problems and difficulties which, at first blush, appear to be entirely beyond the ken of a Canadian or American banker. This is not so much the case in Japan, where the gold standard prevails and where banking and commerce is modelled closely upon Occidental standards, as in China, with not only one, but several silver standards or units and with "local currents," and even silver coinage, subject to frequent and sometimes violent fluctuations at each of the Treaty ports. The Chinese exchanges are so abstruse, ambiguous and complex that a newcomer is utterly bewildered and quickly realises that a successful banker in the Far East should be "born and not made" there. This is particularly true of the man at the helm, as no man, however experienced or expert a banker, he may have been in Europe, America or Canada, could possibly "carry on" successfully in Asia without first mastering the Eastern exchanges, and the co-relation thereof to domestic and foreign trade, and this would entail a period of assiduous study on the ground for at least two or three years. A Japanese banker in China, upon hearing of the supposedly heavy losses incurred in China by an inexperienced foreign banker during the first year's operations, naively commented upon the amount as being a "reasonable initiation fee."

EXTRA-TERRITORIALITY.

CHINESE LAWYERS' RESOLUTION.

The abrogation of the right of extra-territoriality granted to foreigners in China will be the resolution of the Chinese delegates at the Eastern Bar Conference to be held in Tokio from April 1st to 3rd. Delegates from China, India, Japan, Siam, Annam and Indo-China will attend.

China will send 29 delegates of whom four are appointed by the Central Government, while the remaining 25 represent the various bar associations in the provinces. Shanghai has two delegates, but on account of the inability of Mr. Chen Ching-ming, who is serving as president of the Associated Students Union, to go, Mr. Wang Chen-ping will be the only local representative. The four delegates from Peking are Messrs. Sun Sheng-yu, Ling Shun-kwei, Tiao Tsu-fang and Yan Ching-ping.

Delegates from Hunan, Fukien, Hupei, Anhui, Kiangsi, Chkiang, Canton and Kiangsu have left for Japan.

The Chinese delegation will contend at the Tokio conference that as China granted the right of extra-territoriality because of her inability to cope with western judicial institutions, she should now recover her rights when she is sufficiently up to western forms of justice. The delegates will point out that she represents the existence of extra-territoriality and the hindrance caused in international commerce by its existence.

It is understood that Japan will also introduce one resolution. It will be the introduction of a system of jury trial in all Asiatic countries.

The Tokio conference is the second one in the history of the East. The initial convention was held last year in Manila. The next conference will be held in Shanghai a year from now.

JAVA AND HER TRADE.

POSITION OF AMERICA.

Regarding America's prospects in the Dutch East Indies, the *Dutch East Indian Archipelago* (Batavia, Java) says:—

"Of late years, made in Germany," has had to give way to "made in U.S.A." and although we are persuaded that in the case of certain special articles, such as iron, for instance, Germany will prove to be a permanent and serious rival to the United States; yet we refuse to believe by reason of the above, that the Germany of to-day will be able to recover and hold the position of the Germany of pre-war days. But even should the seemingly impossible happen, and Germany be able to recover her former position on our market, even then the increasing demand for different articles of daily use will leave America sufficient opportunities for obtaining a permanent interest in the Dutch East Indies, where, without counting the rise in prices, export trade has increased 50 per cent."

Another reason for permanency of the hold American goods have taken on the people of Java is their novelty and practical construction. These goods have found their way into the islands, never to be driven out. Americans are earnestly trying to meet the wants of the Dutch East Indies and nothing but crass carelessness can lose this trade to the United States.

RURAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. Herbert Lewis, secretary to the Board of Education, has introduced in the House of Commons a bill to amend the Public Libraries Acts, 1892 to 1901. The measure contains a series of interesting proposals. In view of the increased cost of books, higher salaries, and the rise in expenditure the statutory rate available for the support of public libraries is no longer sufficient for their maintenance. Accordingly, the bill proposes to remove the existing limit on the amount of the rate, and to enable public libraries to enjoy the same special means. Apart from the bill, Mr. Lewis has introduced a bill to enable county councils to establish public libraries in areas where at present no such facilities exist.

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2, JOHNSON, 8, Bond Street, Ealing, LONDON, ENGLAND.

RENT-PROFITTEERING AT MONTREAL CIVIC ACTION.

A Hongkong resident, travelling home-ward via Canada, has sent us a copy of the Montreal Star with a marked article on the subject of the appointment of a civic committee to mediate on excessive rents. We quote below from the article:

Montreal is to have a committee of three to enquire into all complaints regarding excessive rentals and, presumably, to adjust such as may be definitely proved to be unreasonable and exorbitant.

The president and secretary of the City Improvement League have called at the City Hall on several occasions during the past week to discuss the situation with E. B. Decary, Chairman of the Administrative Commission, and to decide whether or not some step could not be taken by the civic authorities to remedy the existing conditions where this would appear to be required.

Mr. Decary expressed himself as being in favour of some action in the matter and communication was effected with the City of New York to ascertain the methods and results obtained by a committee appointed for the same in that metropolis.

Interviewed at the City Hall upon the subject, Mr. Decary made the following statement:

Several complaints have reached the City Hall lately from the tenant associations now being formed to protect themselves against what they call enormous increases in rental values and in view of these complaints the Administrative Commission has decided to appoint a committee on house letting whose duties it will be to act as mediators between the landlords and the tenants in such cases where the tenants would claim excessive and unjustified increase of rentals.

This committee shall be composed in such a way that both landlords and tenants shall feel that in putting their cases before them for mediation they will be sure to have a fair hearing and a fair decision.

The submitting of disputes by tenants and landlords to such committee will be entirely voluntary. The object to be attained by the committee is not to discriminate in such a way against the landlords so as to discourage building operations but to obtain more stability in rental values and discourage what may be called excessive profiteering on rentals due to the scarcity of lodging or impossibility of the occupants of such tenements to obtain accommodation elsewhere.

Mr. Decary added that the decision of the Administrative Commission had been discussed with the City Improvement League and the Chambre de Commerce and approved by them and would be submitted to the Board of Trade. J. Hamilton Ferns, president of the city assessors' department, would be chairman of the committee which would also include Mr. Stewart, President of the City Improvement League and one other member yet to be appointed. It is understood that Mr. Ferns goes to New York to investigate the system of the committee now operating in that city.

Mr. Ferny added, in conclusion that the appointment of this committee was not to be regarded in any way as a conspiracy against landlords, but that its creation had been necessitated by the existence of a situation which might become involved in the grievances or alleged grievances of tenants were not rectified and a better feeling established between them and the landlords of the city.

The idea, said Mr. Decary, "is to try to bring people together. There are undoubtedly some cases of excessive increases in rentals and the mediation committee in New York appears to be working very well."

THE AMERICAN WHEAT SUPPLY.

NO CHANGE IN TRANS-PACIFIC FREIGHT RATES.

A Seattle dispatch says:—There have been no appreciable changes in trans-Pacific freight rates on flour in the last few weeks. Steamship lines are offering space for June at \$10 to \$12 a ton for Oriental common points, but advice from the east coast of the United States indicates another allocation of vessels from the Atlantic to the Pacific service in the near future. With a small amount of additional shipping tonnage it is declared a brisk movement of flour from Puget Sound to the Orient would start. When the ships are here, if they do come, then actual negotiations for space will be opened.

Freight rates are considered a trifle high at present from the Oriental buying viewpoint. Silver exchange in Oriental ports has overcome a large part of the discrepancy in prices "free on board" Puget Sound, but the balance is not entirely even.

A sharp improvement in conditions for shipping American flour to the Orient this season as compared with last year are indicated in the figures of wheat exports from Puget Sound. Total exports of flour from Puget Sound in the period from June 30th to January 1st, 1919, were 2,230,429 barrels, as compared with 2,130,633 barrels in the previous season.

Puget Sound millers desire the wheat supply in this country is not nearly as large as the United States Grain Corporation has estimated it. The corporation gives the merchantable 1919 crop at 917,000,000 bushels. Millers assert that exports will have reduced this amount by 225,000,000 bushels and consumption for domestic food purposes by 57,500,000 bushels more; that reserves for seed will be 35,000,000 bushels; and for feed 77,000,000 bushels.

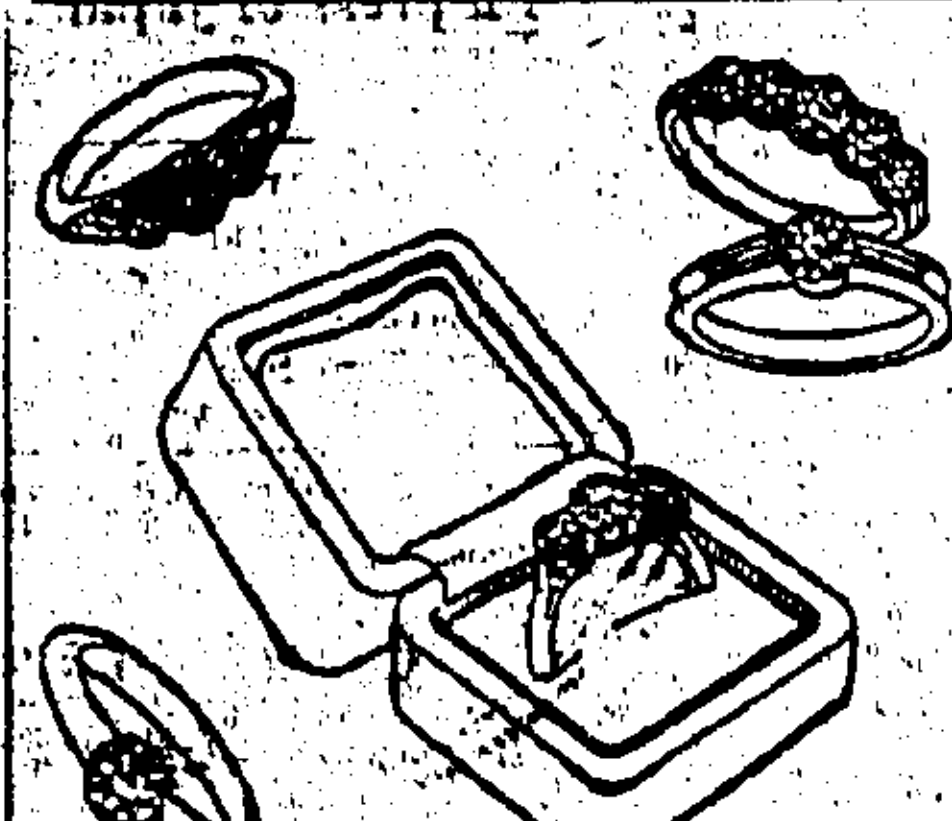
In addition the estimate of the holdings on the bushel unit system is pronounced erroneous, as within 8 and 10 per cent. of the crop was light weight requiring that much more to produce a barrel of flour. Wheat that normally weighs standard has been found so light that it is not regarded as safe to measure it on the higher average.



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INDO-CHINA STEAM-NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

SAILINGS (RETURN) TO SUPERATION		
SANDAKAN	"HINSANG"	Tues. 30th Mar. Noon
STRAIT & CALUTTA	"LAISANG"	Tues. 30th Mar. 3 p.m.
KORH	"KWAISANG"	Wed. 31st Mar. 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	"KWONGANG"	Wed. 31st Mar. 5 p.m.
"CANILA	"BLOONGANG"	Sat. 3rd Apr. D'light
TIENTSIN	"CHONGSHING"	Sun. 2nd Apr. 3 a.m.
HAIPHONG via HOIKOW	"TANGJANG"	Sun. 4th Apr. 8 a.m.
SHANGHAI	"KWONGANG"	Tues. 6th Apr. D'light
KORH	"CHAKSANG"	Sat. 13th Apr. 5 p.m.

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For BOSTON & NEW YORK.
S.S. "LUCERIE" via Panama and Havana April 20th.

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UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

LONDON & ROTTERDAM... "KAZEMBE" ... 30th May.

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For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to apply to the undersigned.

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**C. N. C.
CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.****SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION**

For	Steamer	To Sail
SWATOW and BANGKOK	"CHINHUA"	On 30th March 11 A.M.
TIENTSIN	"HUIOHOW"	On 30th March, Noon.
AMOY, SHANGHAI & PUHOU	"SUIYANG"	On 30th March, 4 P.M.
HONGKONG	"TAIKOO WAN YI"	On 1st April, 9 A.M.
SHANGHAI	"SINKIANG"	On 1st April, Noon.
HAIPHONG	"KAIKONG"	On 1st April, 10 A.M.
BEANGKOK and SINGAPORE	"TRAY"	On 2nd April, 4 P.M.
SWATOW and BANGKOK	"CHUSAN"	On 6th April, 10 A.M.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAILS and CARGO.
Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amplest. Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai (three weekly) and Ningbo (weekly), taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

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(Occupying 9 to 10 Days).

"HAICHING" ... Capt. A. H. Stewart ... TUESDAY, 30th Mar., at 1 P.M.
"MOHAI" (Hailong) ... Capt. Ed. Walker ... FRIDAY, 2nd Apr., at 1 P.M.
"HAICHONG" ... Capt. W. O. Passmore ... TUESDAY, 6th Apr., at 1 P.M.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

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Sailings from Hongkong.

"CHARLTON HALL"	via Panama & Havana	31st Mar.
"JASON"	via Suez	10th April.
"CITY OF COLOMBO"	via Suez	15th May.
"BURYMAORUS"	via Panama	15th May.

calling at Boston.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owner's option.

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PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL SAILINGS (South)

	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"BANCA" (Cargo only)	6,000	3rd Apr.	MARSEILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP
"KEHWA"	2,000	15th Apr.	MARSEILLES, LONDON & ANTWERP
"DILWARA"	5,400	15th Apr.	Spore, Colombo, Bombay.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS (South)

"JAPAN"	6,000	31st Mar. 1 P.M.	Straits, Rangoon & Calcutta.
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EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	28th April.	Sandakan, Thursday Island, Queensland Ports and
"EASTERN"	4,000	19th May.	Sydney, Melbourne.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

"NORE"	6,700	5th Apr.	Shanghai & Kobe
"GREGORY APCAR"	4,900	4th Apr.	Shanghai & Kobe
"DILWARA"	5,400	4th Apr.	Shanghai & Kobe

CALLS AT ANTWERP & CALLS MANILA.**WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.**

Tickets Interchangeable.
1st Saloon Passengers may travel by P. & O. Company's steamers between Singapore and Calcutta or Singapore and Madras in lieu of the section of their P. & O. Tickets Singapore to Calcutta.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.
Passengers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.
Parcels Mailing not more than 5 lbs. x 11 will be received at the Company's Office up to Noon on the day previous to sailing.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments of which they have received documents or advice.

Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee and the Company's Surveyor, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

For Further Information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbooks, etc., apply to
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Operating the following U.S. Shipping Board Steamers.

FOR SEATTLE, TACOMA, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER.

(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe).

"ELDRIDGE"	...	About April 8th.
"CITY OF SPOKANE"	...	About April 27th.
"IGNIUM"	...	About May 24th.
"CROSSKEYS"	...	About June 2nd.

FOR PORTLAND direct.

(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe).

"PAWLETT"	...	About April 4th.
"COAXET"	...	About April 23rd.
"WABAN"	...	About May 15th.

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June 2nd May 8th May 15th

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FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
SHINYO MARU	22,000	April 1st.
SIBERIA MARU	20,000	April 1st. (from Yokohama)
PERSIA MARU	9,000	April 18th.
KOREA MARU	20,000	May 3rd.
TENYO MARU	22,000	May 24th.

* Omits Shanghai

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO VIA JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO

SAN PEDRO, SALINO CRUZ, BALBOA, ALLAO, ARICA

AND IQUIQUE

THENCE BY TRANS-ANDAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers	Tons	Leave Hongkong
SEIYO MARU	14,000	May 11th.
KIYO MARU	17,500	July 12th.
ANYO MARU	18,500	Sept. 9th.

Tickets are interchangeable with the Canadian Pacific Ocean Service Ltd. and the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

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FREIGHT SERVICE.

Direct Freight Service to CUBA and NEW ORLEANS, via San Francisco, Balboa and The Panama Canal.

Steamer

(Leaves Hongkong)

CHOYO MARU ... April or May.

For all information as to rates, freight space, sailings, etc., apply to—

Telephone 2374 and 2375. Y. TSUTSUMI, Manager, King's Building.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.**FRENCH MAIL LINES.**

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

DESTINATION STEAMER & DEPARTURE SAILING DATE

SHANGHAI, KOBE	"ARMAND BEHIC"	10,000	On or about 6th April
YOKOHAMA	"CORDILLERE"	10,000	On or about 25th April

SHANGHAI (Only) ...

MARSEILLES VIA SAIGON, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, DIBOUT, SUEZ, PORT SAID ...

"PAUL LECAT" ... 30,000 ... On or about 4th April.

* calling at Haiphong.

Cargo boat for EUROPE to call at MARSEILLES, and if sufficient inducement ... others, GENOA, HAVRE, DUNKIRK, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM.

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

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Telephone 740.

O. S. K.**OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA**

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

LONDON & ANTWERP—Monthly direct service via Singapore and Port Said.

"ANDES MARU"	...	Wednesday, 31st March.
"HAVANA MARU"	...	Beginning April.
"HAYBE MARU"	...	Beginning May.

Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro Santos, MAURITIUS, DURBAN and CAPE TOWN via SINGAPORE.

"TACOMA MARU" ... Monday, 5th April.

"PANAMA MARU" ... Middle of June.

BOMBAY COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Singapore.

"BURMA MARU" ... Saturday, 10th April.

SAIGON, BANGKOK, SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly service.

"UNAN MARU" ... Wednesday, 7th April.

SYDNEY, MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

"KOSOKU MARU" ... Sunday, 4th April.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, TACOMA—Regular fortnightly services touching at intermediate ports in Japan and taking cargo to OVERLAND POINTS U.S. in connection with Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

"ARABIA MARU" ... Tuesday, 6th April.

"MANILA MARU" ... Tuesday, 30th April.

JAPAN PORTS—Mori, Kobe, Yokohama, Yokohama.

KEELUNG via SWATOW, AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers and arrive at and depart from the O.S.K. wharf near the Harbour Office.

"KAJO MARU" ... Sunday, 4th April.

For TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

"SOBEU MARU" ... Thursday, 8th April.

For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—

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HONGKONG TO PHILIPPINES AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

Steamer | Arr. Hongkong from Australia | Lv. Hongkong for Australia

"CHANGSHA" | March 27th | March 21st 2 P.M.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

This Steamer is fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and has superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State Rooms. A daily certified Doctor is on board. Refused Passengers. Cargo loaded through to all Australian, New Zealand & Tasmanian Ports.

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